

# ATTACHMENT

For Item

30

TUESDAY  
April 30, 2024

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

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**Valdivia, Janely**

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**From:** henkinp@earthlink.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2024 5:29 PM  
**To:** Desmond, Jim; Anderson, Joel; MontgomerySteppe, Monica; Vargas, Nora (BOS);  
Lawson-Reimer, Terra  
**Cc:** FGG, Public Comment  
**Subject:** [External] AMENDING HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FEES (PLEASE INCLUDE WITH DOCUMENTS FOR AGENDA #30)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Supervisors,

These fee increases are neither fair nor reasonable, as the Board Letter would have you believe. Frankly, I think that most of the County, with their finances reeling from inflation, natural disasters, and the threat of raised taxes to make up for the massive deficits created by Government, cannot afford such increases in medical fees, some for necessary services.

Increasing the fees by 14 to 46% for tests that have resulted in unnecessary beach closures(although there are a few token decreases) is a ridiculous idea. What are we doing &ndash; paying for more beach closures, more damage to tourism, business, and our reputation?

I thought you wanted to help mental patients, such as are at Edgemoor Hospital. Increasing the private pay rate by 14% when the cost of living rose at most 5% is inflationary and outrageous. So what will happen &ndash; more psychos on the streets?

And raising the pharmacy dispensing fee by 100% is disgusting. The good thing is that it will give people a chance to test out slower but safer natural and non-traditional cures, as many of us have been suggesting all along. So maybe a veiled thank you for this one item?

And of course, there is no real justification provided for these fee increases. I urge you to reject this dangerous proposal.

Regards,

Paul Henkin